



HR0553

LRB099 12647 GRL 36316 r

1

HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The State of Illinois has failed to consistently  
3 budget in a way that provides fiscal stability and employs a  
4 long-term approach to Illinois' financial health; and

5           WHEREAS, The State lacks the fiscal stability necessary to  
6 adequately attract and retain new jobs at the levels necessary  
7 to support robust economic growth; this lack of stability  
8 drives up costs of providing critical services and programs for  
9 Illinois residents; and

10           WHEREAS, The lack of consistent long-term budget  
11 strategies, combined with the recent fiscal downturn, have led  
12 to a perpetual cycle of crisis budgeting; and

13           WHEREAS, Crisis-driven budgeting has led to a focus on  
14 short-term needs, rather than the long-term needs of the State;  
15 and

16           WHEREAS, The instability of Illinois' fiscal situation  
17 limits the ability of the State to adequately fund education,  
18 provide for critical human services to those most in need, and  
19 address unpaid bills; and

20           WHEREAS, An evaluation of the quality and efficacy of

1 programs and services provided by the State must be an integral  
2 part of the appropriations process; and

3 WHEREAS, Budget efforts should be focused on best practices  
4 and the most cost-effective approach for the provision of  
5 essential programs and services, rather than the crisis-driven  
6 decision making currently employed; therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
8 NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
9 urge the General Assembly to implement the following budgeting  
10 practices to standardize the annual budget process as follows:

11 (1) set an annual revenue estimate, after examination  
12 of the estimates of the Governor's Office of Management and  
13 Budget and the Commission on Government Forecasting and  
14 Accountability;

15 (2) allocate non-discretionary items "off the top" of  
16 the estimate of available revenues before dividing the rest  
17 of the revenue proportionately among the appropriations  
18 committees; and

19 (3) create an "Executive Appropriations Committee"  
20 comprised of the chairs and minority spokespersons of each  
21 appropriations committee as well as the chair of the  
22 Revenue Committee, which shall be charged with setting the  
23 amounts to be allocated to each appropriations committee  
24 and any subsequent reallocation of such funds; and be it

1 further

2 RESOLVED, That we urge the General Assembly to not approve  
3 the expenditure of funds for new programs and services without  
4 providing an examination of the cost/benefit analysis of said  
5 program or service and a finding that the addition of the new  
6 program or service provides significant long-term benefit to  
7 the State's fiscal health by realizing cost savings or meets an  
8 overriding public policy need; and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That we urge the General Assembly to conduct such  
10 an analysis at the committee level, with each substantive and  
11 appropriations committee creating a working subcommittee to  
12 consider such measures and evaluate the aforementioned  
13 criteria.